

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: )  
Alan Foster ) Before the Examiner  
Serial No. 10/526,770 )  
Filed February 28, 2005 ) Group Art Unit  
**IMPROVEMENTS IN OR** )  
**RELATING TO CASTORS** )  
US National Stage of PCT/GB2003/003700 )  
filed August 26, 2003 ) May 27, 2005

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**EV 394103543 US**

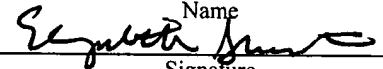
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

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Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant requests consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 (PTO/SB08A&B) and/or the additional information identified below in paragraph 4. A legible copy of each foreign patent document and publication listed on form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except:

[ ] a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ and/or

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application (other than a continued prosecution application), or

before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,

**and thus no certification and/or fee is required.**

Information Disclosure Statement  
Serial No. 10/526,770  
Group Art Unit Not yet known  
Attorney Docket No. 7520-2  
EAS.le.341566

1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus:

(1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) ☐ a fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p)) is enclosed.

1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

(1) ☐ **the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and  
a fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p)) is enclosed; or**

(2) ☐ a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) has been filed.

2. It is hereby certified

a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement, or

b. ☐ that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

c. ☐ A copy of a dated communication from a foreign patent office which clearly shows the statement is being submitted within three (3) months of the date on the communication is enclosed.

3. ☒ A copy of a Search Report or Written Opinion from a foreign patent office is enclosed.


4. ☐ Consideration of the following additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

5. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
- a. ☐ an English language translation submitted herewith,
  - b. ☐ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
  - c. ☐ an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith,
  - d. ☐ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page<sup>s</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,
  - e. ☒ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
  - f. ☐ a copy of a related patent publication (in the English language) submitted herewith,
  - g. ☐ the concise explanation set forth below:

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b).

It is believed that no additional fees are required. Should any other fee be required, however, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	10/526,770
				Filing Date	February 28, 2005
				First Named Inventor	Alan Foster
				Group Art Unit	Unassigned
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
				Attorney Docket Number	7520-2
Sheet	1	of	1		

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.